

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A data storage device comprising:

storage means, installed in a housing, for storing predetermined confidential data;

data generation means comprising two electrodes disposed on said housing for generating data representing a deflection of said housing in which said storage means is installed; and

detection means for detecting a physical impact applied to said housing in accordance with the data generated by said data generation means.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) A data storage device comprising:

storage means, installed in a housing, for storing predetermined confidential data;

data generation means comprising two electrodes disposed on said housing for generating data representing a deflection of said housing in which said storage means is installed;

detection means for detecting a physical impact applied to said housing by specifying the deflection of said housing in accordance with the data generated by said data generation means; and

data cancel means for canceling the confidential data stored in said storage means when said detection means detects said physical impact applied to said housing,

wherein said data representing deflection of said housing represents a change of capacitance between the two electrodes that are disposed on said housing.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The data storage device according to claim 1, further

comprising:

measure means for measuring a temperature in said housing in which said storage means is installed; and

correction means for correcting the data generated by said data generation means in accordance with the temperature measured by said measure means,

wherein said detection means detects the physical impact applied to said housing in accordance with the data representing the deflection after the correction by said correction means.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The data storage device according to claim 2, further comprising:

measure means for measuring a temperature in said housing in which said storage means is installed; and

correction means for correcting the data generated by said data generation means in accordance with the temperature measured by said measure means,

wherein said detection means detects the physical impact applied to said housing in accordance with the data representing the deflection after the correction by said correction means.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) A data storage device comprising:

a memory, installed in a housing having predetermined shape, for storing predetermined

confidential data;

a plurality of electrodes disposed on said housing in which said memory is installed, for generating a predetermined capacitance; and

a detection processor for detecting a deflection of said housing in accordance with a shift of degrees of the capacitance between said electrodes.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) A data storage device comprising:

a memory, installed in a housing having a predetermined shape, which stores predetermined confidential data;

a plurality of electrodes disposed on said housing in which said memory is installed, which generates a predetermined capacitance;

a detection processor which specifies a deflection of said housing in accordance with a shift of degrees of the capacitance between said electrodes to detect a physical impact applied to said housing; and

a data canceler which cancels the confidential data stored in said memory when said detection processor detects the physical impact applied to said housing.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The data storage device according to claim 5, further comprising:

a thermo-sensor which measures a temperature in said housing in which said memory is installed; and

a correction processor which corrects the shift of degrees of the capacitance between said electrodes in accordance with the temperature measured by said thermo-sensor,

wherein said detection processor detects the physical impact applied to said housing in accordance with the deflection of said housing after the correction by said correction processor.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) The data storage device according to claim 6, further comprising:

a thermo-sensor which measures a temperature in said housing in which said memory is installed; and

a correction processor which corrects the shift of degrees of the capacitance between said electrodes in accordance with the temperature measured by said thermo-sensor,

wherein said detection processor detects the physical impact applied to said housing in accordance with the deflection of said housing after the correction by said correction processor.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) A detection method comprising:

generating data representing a deflection of a housing in which a storage device for storing predetermined confidential data is installed; and

detecting a deflection of said housing in accordance with the data generated by said generating data,

wherein said data representing the deflection of said housing represents a change of capacitance between two electrodes that are disposed on said housing.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) A detection method comprising:

generating data representing a deflection of a housing in which a storage device for storing predetermined confidential data is installed;

measuring a temperature in said housing in which said storage device is installed;

correcting the data generated by said generating data in accordance with the measured temperature; and

detecting a physical impact applied to said housing by specifying the deflection of said housing in accordance with the data representing the deflection of said housing after correction by said correcting data,

wherein said data representing the deflection of said housing represents a change of capacitance between two electrodes that are disposed on said housing.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) A detection method comprising:

measuring the capacitance between a plurality of electrodes disposed on a housing in which a memory for storing predetermined confidential data is installed; and

detecting a deflection of said housing in accordance with a shift of degrees of the measured capacitance.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) A detection method comprising:

measuring a capacitance between a plurality of electrodes disposed on a housing in which a memory for storing predetermined confidential data is installed;

measuring a temperature in said housing in which said memory is installed;
correcting the measured capacitance in accordance with the measured temperature; and
detecting a physical impact applied to said housing by specifying a deflection of said housing in accordance with a shift of degrees of the capacitance after the correction.

Claim 13. (Previously presented) A data storage device comprising:

a data storage in a housing;
a plurality of electrodes disposed on said housing; and
a processor that determines a deflection of said housing based upon a capacitance between the plurality of electrodes.

Claim 14. (Previously presented) The device of claim 13, further comprising:

a temperature sensor that sends a temperature signal to said processor.

Claim 15. (Previously presented) The device of claim 14, wherein said processor adjusts the determined deflection based upon said temperature signal.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) The device of claim 13, wherein the data storage stores confidential data.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) The device of claim 16, wherein said processor controls

said data storage to erase said confidential data when the determined deflection exceeds a predetermined range.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The device of claim 13, wherein said processor comprises:
a data management processor that manages data stored on the data storage and further determines said deflection of said housing; and
a main processor that controls said data management processor.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the data management processor is responsive to a deflection that exceeds a predetermined reference value to destroy data stored on the data storage.

Claim 20. (Previously presented) The device of claim 13, wherein said processor determines said deflection based upon a change in capacitance between two of the plurality of electrodes.

Claim 21. (New) A detection method comprising:
detecting a change in capacitance between at least two electrodes that are mounted on a housing for a storage device; and
determining whether the change in capacitance indicates a deflection of the housing.

Claim 22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising detecting a temperature in the

housing.

Claim 23. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising correcting the change in capacitance based upon the detected temperature.

Claim 24. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the determining comprises determining whether the change in capacitance exceeds a predetermined reference value.

Claim 25. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising storing confidential data on the storage device.

Claim 26. (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising erasing the confidential data from the storage device in response to a determination of said deflection of the housing.